

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SINGAP 01271 180459Z

ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 SSO-00 /013 W

-----037262 180505Z /13

O 170400Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9892

C O N F I D E N T I A L SINGAPORE 1271

FOR EA ONLY

FOR HEGINBOTHAM FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: ADS (DECLASSIFY UPON ISSUANCE OF SIA LICENSE)

TAGS: EAIR, SN, US

SUBJECT: SIA CARGO PERMIT

1. SINGAPORE AIRLINES (SIA) PLANS TO COMMENCE ITS CARGO SERVICE TO THE U.S. APRIL 1 IF ITS LICENSE IS ISSUED BY THEN. CAB APPROVED PERMIT AND FORWARDED IT TO WHITE HOUSE FEB. 22 WHERE IT HAS SINCE REMAINED.

2. SINGAPORE WAS INITIALLY RELUCTANT TO GRANT PAN AM INCREASED TRAFFIC RIGHTS UNDER THE AGREEMENT SIGNED SEPT. 23, 1977, BECAUSE IT WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT USG BUREAUCRACY MIGHT TAKE AS LONG AS ONE YEAR TO PROCESS RECIPROCAL SIA REQUESTS FOR RIGHTS. AFTER CONSULTATIONS WITH DEPARTMENT (EB/OA/AN), EMBASSY WROTE TO GOS, ESTIMATING THAT SIA PERMIT WOULD BE APPROVED WITHIN NINE TO TEN WEEKS OF APPLICATION. SIA APPLICATION WAS FILED DEC. 1, 1977.

3. AS PART OF THE EXPLANATION OF THE APPROVAL PROCESS, DEPT. INFORMED THIS EMBASSY THAT WHITE HOUSE APPROVAL WOULD TAKE LESS THAN ONE WEEK; IT IS NOW APPROACHING ONE MONTH SINCE WHITE HOUSE RECEIVED DOCUMENTS.

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4. PAN AM HAS BEEN OPERATING ITS NEW ROUTE SINCE OCTOBER 1977 AND EMBASSY LATER PUT GREAT PRESSURE ON GOS TO WITHDRAW RESTRICTIONS IT WANTED TO LEVY ON FLYING TIGER LINE'S OPERATIONS HERE. TIGER'S PERMIT HAS BEEN APPROVED WITHOUT THOSE RESTRICTIONS.

5. AT NO TIME DID EMBASSY MAKE ANY ABSOLUTE GUARANTEES TO GOS, BUT WE DID PROVIDE STRONG ASSURANCES WHICH INDUCED THE GOS TO

GRANT RIGHTS TO US AIRLINES WITHOUT IMMEDIATE RECIPROCITY FOR  
SIA. GIVEN THE RATHER EMBARRASSING POSITION WE WOULD BE IN SHOULD  
SIA BE FORCED TO POSTPONE ITS STARTUP DATE, AS WELL AS TO PRESERVE  
THE INTEGRITY OF OTHER INFORMAL COMMITMENTS TO SINGAPORE,  
I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR ASSISTANCE IN EXPEDITING THE ISSUANCE OF  
SIA'S PERMIT OR AN INDICATION OF THE REASONS FOR THE DELAY.  
HOLDRIDGE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AIR CARGO, AIR SCHEDULES  
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**Draft Date:** 17 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** AS (DECLASSIFY UPON ISSUANCE OF SIA LICENSE)  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014